



After a somewhat “soggy” weekend, it sure was nice to see a bit of sunshine this morning! We enjoyed having another great turn-out of members and guests at today’s Noon Meeting! There were 26 members and 10 guests in attendance, and three of those “regular guests” were soon to become full-fledged members at today’s meeting. I’m definitely going to need to have My Assistant produce a new Attendance Sheet at the start of the New Rotary Year, as we keep adding New Members to the list! Yes, I’ve just used the word “new” three times in one sentence, but the idea of “new” brings to mind thoughts of freshness, vibrancy, and growth, and this is what our wonderful club has been experiencing as more members are being added to the list.



Our Meeting began this noon, as we joined Pres. Jack in reciting The Pledge. Our song leader, John F. chose “God Bless America” to lead us in song. The Blessing was given by Steve R., who gave thanks to The Heavenly Father for giving us the hearts and resources to help others. He also prayed that we continue to “serve above self”, in all that we do. The guests who joined us today were Chris, Betty, Sharon, Bruce, Mike, Lauren, Steve, Liz, and Clyde, and the guest speaker, Pat Elwell.

Jack shared some snippets from this morning’s Board Meeting. There was a note from the Naples Special Olympics Team, thanking us for our support. We are planning on having a bench installed at Rotary Grove in memory of Al Mann. We intend to honor the NCS students’ request for a sound system, but at this time, more information is needed. The Budget for the New Year has been approved. Thanks to Susan for all her hard work! The Margery Coughlin Pawluk Golf Tournament was very successful. Thanks to all who helped and were involved. Tom (Pawluk) will be coming to talk to the Club in the near future. Warren is standing in for Skip. He needs to know if you are coming to the Gavel Dinner.

Jack briefly reviewed the Club Calendar. Today, 6/17, we have Pat Elwell here to talk to us about the Naples Fire Department. Next week, 6/24, Joe Rought will join us to talk about Operation Build-Up. The NRC Gavel Dinner will be on 7/1 at Brew and Brats, a great venue!

Before Today’s Program, we had the Ceremony for the Induction of New Members.



Steve Janto and Clyde Yee were sponsored by Laurie, and Elizabeth Yee was sponsored by Alex. Pres. Jack called forward the New Inductees and their Sponsors as eight of us Rotarians lined up alongside them to share our Rotary thoughts. Thanks to Warren and Alex for filling in for Skip and Judy. Each New Member received a “Rotary Packet”, which was carefully prepared by Mike, and Laurie and Alex received Sponsorship Pins. Congratulations to Steve, Clyde, and Liz! We welcome you, knowing you’ll each be a wonderful addition to the Club! Jack noted that thirteen New Members have been added to the Club during this past year!

Naples Fire Chief, Patrick Elwell, was the Program Presenter at today’s meeting. Pat, who joined the NFD in 1981, began by giving a brief history of the NFD. The Maxfield Hose Company is 113 years old! The present Fire Department was formerly known as the Morgan Hook and Ladder Company. Currently there are 26 fire-fighters, and 6 youth serving in the Junior Program. The NFD serves an area of 110 square miles!

Its members are involved in rigorous training throughout their careers. There is training every Monday night during the year, in-house training



every Saturday, and Continuing Education Classes being taken. Pat spoke of how during his career, he has witnessed change over time. It is difficult to keep trained people, as this “New Generation” moves on. He also told of how much has changed since 9-11. There has been training to deal with issues such as dealing with weapons of mass destruction, chemical warfare contamination, and the harsh realities that are caused by the use of certain drugs. Pat stated that a small percentage of what the FD does is actually related to fire!

He entertained many questions from the members afterwards. When asked what some of the greatest needs were within the NFD, he responded by saying that personnel and financial were two of them. Community Service is one of the Rotary Avenues of Service, and the Naples Fire Department certainly exemplifies that goal in every aspect! Thank you, Pat, for all that your organization does for our community and environs. Many thanks, too, for coming to talk with us today!

The Combined Fines and Happy Bills today, were as follows. Collectively, we all appreciated Pat Elwell’s Program and the NFD, for all they do to keep us safe. We are pleased to have Liz, Clyde, and Steve join Rotary. We were glad the MCP Golf Tournament was so successful in raising funds to help cancer patients.

The Ace of Hearts was at \$163 today! Ticket #0851 turned out to be that of President Jack! Jack drew the Queen of Diamonds from the pack! John F. had a Win-Win ready for us. The very first Fire Department in the U.S.A. was begun in 1853, in Cincinnati, Ohio! Jack shared a special Rotary Moment, expressing how nice it was to see our Rotary Banner proudly displayed at the MCP Golf Tournament last Friday!

That about “wraps it up” for this week! Pres. Jack has asked me to remind everyone that “dues will be due”, as the New Rotary Year approaches. The cost is \$75 per person for 6 months, or \$150 for the entire year. FYI, New Members, we typically pay 6 months at a time. Have a great week, everyone, and we’ll see you on the 24th!

Programs for the rest of this Rotary Year			
Date	Time	Program	Speaker
6/24/19	Noon	Operation Build up	Joe Rought
7/1/19	PM	Naples Changeover Dinner	